

From: Bushong, Linda (MDE) **On Behalf Of** Leikert, Howard J (MDE)
Sent: Thursday, December 01, 2011 1:50 PM
To: MDE-SchoolNutrition
Subject: Tuesday News from MDE 112911

Hope you all had a great Thanksgiving holiday! I have to start out by admitting to an error (gasp! I know!). So let's get it over with:

- 1) Geographic Preference - In the information I sent last week regarding geographic preference, the Department of Defense (DoD) should not have been mentioned. The DoD program is separate from the USDA programs and is not being replaced by the Fresh Produce Pilot Program. It should not have been mentioned in the fact sheet for geographic preference as well.
- 2) Chefs in School - On **Wednesday, December 14, 2011, at 2:00 p.m. EST, there will be a webinar** "Chefs in Schools: Increasing Participation and Gaining Renewed Excitement around your School Meal Program" in partnership with the National Dairy Council. Have you thought about the idea of bringing a chef to your child nutrition program? Here is a great opportunity to learn more:
 - Learn from Kern Halls, Area Manager for Orange County Public Schools, who has successfully used chefs in the areas of recipe/menu development, food education, and culinary skills. He will share best practices and strategies to make the experience a good one for your staff, students, and program. Hear from Chef Tom French, Director of the Experience Food Project in Langley, WA. Chef Tom will share a chef's perspective on working with child nutrition programs. Chef Tom is a seasoned chef, consultant, and trainer with over 40 years of professional foodservice experience. Learn how you can use Fuel Up to Play 60 and other resources to build more excitement around your child nutrition program. This webinar will be moderated by SNA's Dean of Education Danny Seymour, who brings his expertise from both sides of the equation with his 30+ years of operator experience, and experience as a Culinary Institute of America trained chef.

For more information and to register, visit the following website:
www.schoolnutrition.org/chefsinschools.

- 3) Most Common Barrier Request - As you may recall, a few weeks ago, I asked what barriers does MDE have that makes your jobs more difficult. The most common complaint was simply to have a directory of all the people that work in the School Nutrition Programs unit available. In response to that request, the following is a link to the directory:
http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/snp_directory_doc_369832_7.pdf
or go to our website at www.michigan.gov/schoolnutrition and click on the link *School Nutrition Programs Contact List*. There were few complaints and most others were federally required type issues that we have to make sure are

being followed (i.e., Why do we have to do production records?). I hope the list helps you connect with the specific person you are looking for!!

Due to Thanksgiving, it has been a short week so I will end here for now. I am at a State Agency conference and I will report back to you all next Tuesday. Have a great week!

Howard Leikert, MBA, SNS

Supervisor
School Nutrition Programs
Michigan Department of Education
517-373-3892
517-373-4022 Fax

Looking for information on local schools? Go to www.michigan.gov/mischooldata.